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Wednesday, December 5, 2018 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroP

GETTY IMAGES

A 'MARVELOUS' RETURN

Alex Borstein compares "Mrs. Maisel" to "The Odd Couple." 11

Merry Drink-mas at Christmas pop-up bar Tinsel. 12-13

Eagles' playoff hopes go through Cowboys. 14-15

CLERGY CONTROVERSY

Pennsylvania's top court decides not to release the identities of 11 current and former priests, citing the lack of due process surrounding a scathing report on sex abuse in the Catholic Church. 4-5

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4 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

The Pennsylvania grand jury report on hidden sex abuse by Catholic clergy revealed nearly 300 predator priests and how their alleged decades of sexual abuse of children was shielded from law enforcement by the Church, sparking outrage worldwide. But the state's Supreme Court has just ruled in favor of keeping 11 priests anonymous to protect their constitutional right to a reputation — a move that Attorney General Josh Shapiro blasted as allowing "predator priests to remain in the shadows." Read more inside and on **metrophilly.us.**

1 COMEDIAN KEVIN HART TO HOST 2019 OSCARS

Comedian Kevin Hart will host the next Academy Awards ceremony in February 2019, the "Ride Along" actor said in an Instagram post on Tuesday. "I am so happy to say that the day has finally come for me to host the Oscars," Hart wrote. The Academy Awards are the film industry's highest honors. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which organizes the Oscars and normally announces the host, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Hart, 39, who also starred in the 2017 film "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," follows talk-show host Jimmy Kimmel, who took on the gig in 2018 and 2017. "I am blown away simply because this has been a goal on my list for a long time," Hart wrote on his Instagram page. The job of hosting the Oscars is one of the most prestigious but also the most difficult in show business, as hosts have to navigate the expectations of the A-list audience in the theater and millions tuning in on television, with a combination of topical and insider jokes. Hart, who is African-American, is one of just a handful of black Oscar hosts over the past 90 years, including Chris Rock, Whoopi Goldberg and Sammy Davis Jr.

2 JEFFERSON STARSHIP MEMBERS SETTLE LAWSUIT

A founding member of Jefferson Starship has settled his lawsuit against former bandmates over the use of the rock group's name. The accord between guitarist Craig Chaquico and defendants including David Freiberg, Donny Baldwin and others resolved a breach-of-contract lawsuit over performances and merchandising since the January 2016 death of co-founder Paul Kantner. Terms were not disclosed, but the parties "have settled this entire matter," according to a Monday filing from their lawyers in San Francisco federal court. U.S. District Judge Vince Chhabria dismissed the case on Tuesday. "Hopefully everything has been put to rest," Julia Greer, a lawyer for the defendants, said in an interview. Known for the 1975 song "Miracles," a No. 3 hit sung by Marty Balin, Jefferson Starship formed following the breakup of Jefferson Airplane, whose 1960s hits "Somebody to Love" and "White Rabbit" featured singer Grace Slick. Kantner and Balin were also members of Jefferson Airplane. Jefferson Starship evolved in the mid-1980s into Starship, known for the No. 1 hits "We Built This City" and "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now."

3 PRIYANKA CHOPRA AND NICK JONAS WED IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

Newly wed Bollywood actor Priyanka Chopra and American singer Nick Jonas pose for photos during their wedding reception, at Taj Palace on Tuesday in New Delhi, India.

GETTY IMAGES

4 STORMY LAWYER AVENATTI RULES OUT RUN FOR PREZ

Attorney Michael Avenatti, who represents adult-film star Stormy Daniels in her legal battles with President Donald Trump, said on Tuesday he would not run for the White House in 2020, ending a months-long flirtation with a bid for the Democratic nomination. Avenatti, who has been a vocal critic of the Republican Trump and has cast himself as having the fighting spirit to take him on, said in a Twitter post he had decided not to seek the presidency after consulting with his family, and "at their request." "But for their concerns, I would run," he added of his family. Avenatti's decision came three weeks after he was arrested in Los Angeles based on allegations of domestic violence, which he has strongly denied. Los Angeles county prosecutors decided against felony charges and referred the matter to city attorneys, who have yet to decide whether lesser charges are warranted. Avenatti did not mention the arrest in his statement, which included his oft-repeated warning that the Democratic Party risked fielding a candidate lacking the killer instinct needed to defeat Trump.

TONY'S METRO MAGIC 2018

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As we enter the season of giving, Metro asks that you donate to Tony's Metro Magic annual holiday toy drive to help underprivileged children in your community. You can donate by visiting metro.us/magic, clicking on the toy wish list link of your choice, and ordering via a secure payment system. Toys will then be distributed to local children in need.

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PA's top court lets some clerics in Catholic sex-abuse report stay hidden

The state's Supreme Court ruled to keep anonymous 11 clerics of 300 named in August's grand jury report.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Pa. Attorney General Josh Shapiro announced results of the grand jury investigation into Catholic Church sex abuse in August. COURTESY OF PA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Hundreds of priests, clergy and other Catholic Church officials were outed earlier this year by a Pennsylvania investigatory grand jury report released by Attorney General Josh Shapiro.

The report was released in August after weeks of delay pending legal objections from some of those named in the report that they were being denied their due-process rights. While the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania eventually sided with Shapiro in releasing the report, some 11 clerics remained unidentified in the final version.

This week, the Supreme Court made that decision effectively permanent, ruling that the 11 former and current priests out of 300 priests named in the report had a constitutional "right to reputation."

A situation wherein "the grand jury found that named individuals perpetrated heinous criminal acts, but for which no future criminal proceedings can likely be brought, presents a substantial risk of impairment of those individuals' right to their reputation," the court wrote.

Shapiro slammed the decision as another move protecting predators.

"I have consistently fought for the release of the entire, unredacted grand jury report into widespread sexual abuse and cover-up within the Pennsylvania Catholic Church," he said in a statement. "[Monday's] order allows predator priests to remain in the shadows and permits the church to continue concealing their identities."

The court order comes as the Church remains under a frenzy of new scrutiny over global revelations of decades of sexual abuse by men of the cloth being covered up and shielded from authorities by church leadership. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops held off on an official response on the issue during their national meeting in November, pending a global Vatican-organized meeting on the issue in February. The U.S. Department of Justice is reportedly investigating Pennsylvania archdioceses as well.

As the sex-abuse scandal roils the Church and its followers, there also appears to have been a change in the pope's views on homosexuality. While Pope Francis, when asked about gay priests, famously said, "Who am I to judge?" in 2013, he has recently taken a more restrictive position.

In an upcoming book, "The Strength of Vocation," based on interviews between Pope Francis and Father Fernando Prado, the Holy Father is quoted telling Prado: "The Church urges that persons with this rooted tendency not be accepted into ministry or consecrated life."

It is unclear if this change in position relates to the sex-abuse scandal, which is most commonly reported in homosexual encounters, but which has also been documented as being perpetrated by heterosexual priests on victims of the opposite sex.

In the case of the 11 anonymous clerics, the Pennsylvania high court said that being named in connection with the grand jury report, even if they were allowed to attach their letters of self-defense, could sustain irreparable damage to their reputations.

"Because the report contains numerous allegations involving the reprehensible behavior of a multiplicity of individuals, we deemed the cumulative effect of those allegations as likely to inflame a reader's ire, and, thus, impede his or her capacity to evaluate the credibility of an individual's response," the court wrote.

Justice Max Baer wrote an opinion "reluctantly" concurring, advising state authorities that "if it intends to criticize but not indict an individual in a grand jury report to an extent that threatens the individual's right to reputation, it should provide reasonable notice of any potential accusations and a meaningful opportunity to respond thereto."

Chief Justice Ronald Saylor wrote a dissenting opinion stressing that the supervising judge of the grand jury should have heard arguments for or against releasing the material in the report and made the final determination.

"While this order bars me from releasing the names of these 11 petitioners, nothing in this order prevents the dioceses from sharing the shielded names with their parishioners and the public."

Josh Shapiro, state attorney general

The 11 clerics had wanted a chance to respond to — including but not limited to — a new evidentiary hearing, an opportunity to review the decades of archdiocesan records the grand jury perused, and possibly even a chance to cross-examine witnesses.

Shapiro argued against the court, saying that the priests should be named publicly — and also urging the archdioceses to themselves out the anonymous clerics.

"I will continue to stand with all survivors, fighting to ensure every victim gets their day in court and that every predator priest and every bishop and church official who enabled child abuse is held accountable for their abhorrent conduct. The public will not relent in its demand that anyone involved in this widespread abuse and cover-up be named," he said. "While this order bars me from releasing the names of these 11 petitioners, nothing in this order prevents the dioceses from sharing the shielded names with their parishioners and the public. I call on the bishops to do so immediately, consistent with their recent calls for transparency."

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Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and former Secretary of State Colin Powell, center, and former military officials from the Gulf War salute the casket of the late former President George H.W. Bush as he lies in state at the U.S. Capitol, on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGE

Americans pay respects to late President Bush at US Capitol

Colin Powell and Bob Dole were among Tuesday's dignitaries.

Ordinary Americans, generals and former cabinet members paid respects at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda on Tuesday to the late former President George H.W. Bush, who died last week at the age of 94 after a life of service as a World War II hero, head of the CIA and wartime president.

Under the soaring Capitol dome, office workers and tourists walked silently past a flag-draped casket that bore Bush's body.

They were joined by former Secretary of State Colin Powell, who led the U.S. military during the 1991 Gulf War, as well as U.S. generals from that campaign against Iraq.

Bush, the 41st U.S. president, was remembered as a patrician figure who represented a bygone era of bipartisan civility in American politics.

National flags flew at half-staff on many foreign diplomatic buildings on Washington's Embassy Row, past which Bush's coffin will be transported on its way to the Washington National Cathedral for a memorial service on Wednesday.

At the Rotunda, Bob Dole, 95, who was defeated by Bush in the fight for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, was helped out of his wheelchair, stood up and saluted toward the casket.

President Donald Trump, a fellow Republican, planned to visit with the mourning family at Blair House, near the White House.

"The elegance & precision of the last two days have been remarkable!" Trump wrote in a tweet of the Bush memorial events.

Bush's service dog, a young Labrador retriever

Sully, a yellow Labrador service dog for the late former President George H. W. Bush.

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named Sully, also walked past the casket and sat near it briefly.

Bush, father of the 43rd president, George W. Bush, will be buried on Thursday in Texas.

Mourners lined up to enter the Capitol beginning Monday evening for the public viewing.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell opened a session of the Senate on Monday heralding the "daring" former naval aviator, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency and president who won the Gulf War against the forces of Iraq's President Saddam Hussein. "Year after year, post after post, George Bush stayed the course," McConnell said.

Bush was elected president in 1988 after serving two terms as President Ronald Reagan's vice president.

During his four years in the White House, Bush ended the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, steered the United States through the end of the Cold War, and condemned China's 1989 crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

But he was dogged by domestic problems, including a sluggish economy. When he ran for reelection in 1992, he was pilloried by Democrats and many Republicans for violating his famous 1988 campaign promise: "Read my lips, no new taxes."

Democrat Bill Clinton coasted to victory, ending Bush's presidency.

A Connecticut native from a wealthy family who moved to Texas to be an oilman, Bush has been eulogized as a president with a keen sense of civility and duty.

"His character speaks most, because of his character, how he handled so many important points in our history. The Iraq War, the falling of the Berlin Wall — he wasn't [saying], 'That's all about me,'" Theresa Murphy, 64, a retired New York high school history teacher, said on Monday. "Can you imagine what it would look like if our president today did that?"

Bush is the 12th U.S. president to lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda. The first was Abraham Lincoln following his assassination in 1865.

Early in his political career, Bush served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1967-71. He lost bids in 1964 and 1970 for a U.S. Senate seat from Texas.

The federal government and some financial exchanges will be closed on Wednesday for a day of mourning. REUTERS

"His character speaks most, because of his character, how he handled so many important points in our history. The Iraq War, the falling of the Berlin Wall — he wasn't [saying], 'That's all about me.'"

Theresa Murphy, retired NY high school history teacher

Former Sen. Bob Dole salutes the casket of the late former President George H.W. Bush.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) is providing an opportunity for public review and comment on proposed revisions to the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan (Administrative Plan). The two documents and summaries of proposed changes are available for public review and downloading on PHA's website at www.pha.phila.gov under the "Latest News" section or may be picked up at the following locations:

Scattered Sites Management Offices:

Abbottsford Homes – 3226 McMichael Street Wilson Park – 2500 Jackson Street
Westpark Apartments – 4445 Holden Street Fairhill Apartments – 2411 N. 11th Street
Spring Garden Apartments – 715 Brandywine Street

Public Housing Management Offices:
Bartram - 5404 Gibson Drive
Raymond Rosen – 2301 W. Edgely Street

PHA will conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed revisions to the ACOP and Administrative Plan. PHA public housing residents, Housing Choice Voucher Program participants and the general public are invited to attend and provide comments at the Hearing and/or to submit written comments during the public comment period. The Public Hearing is scheduled for the following time and location:

December 18, 2018 at 12 noon
2013 Ridge Ave., 1st floor
Philadelphia, PA 19121

The public comment period begins on **Wednesday December 5, 2018** at 12:00 noon and ends on **Friday, January 4, 2019** at 12:00 noon. All comments must be received at PHA's office by the end of the comment period. Please send written comments to:

Philadelphia Housing Authority
Office of the General Counsel
Attention: ACOP and Administrative Plan Comments
1505 N. 24th street
Philadelphia, PA 19121

The Public Hearing is being held in an accessible location. Persons who require assistance, sign language interpreter or other accommodations should call 215-684-5767 in advance of the Public Hearing. Please use the AT&T Relay Service for TTY.

PHA
PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY
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CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Philly School District's losses to tax abatements 2nd-highest in US: Report

Some question the math of a liberal think tank's new report.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

A new report from the liberal think tank "Good Jobs First" on how subsidies and tax breaks affect school districts nationwide found that Philadelphia ranked second in the nation for hypothetical losses to tax abatements, incentives and other subsidies, with an estimated total loss of $61.9 million in tax year 2017.

The study pins the blame on "economic development tax incentives granted to corporations," and the report will likely add fuel to the fire of rising calls to end the 10-year tax abatement. In September, City Councilwomen Cindy Bass and Helen Gym co-sponsored legislation to end Philadelphia's 10-year tax abatement on new construction and upgrades of existing real estate.

"When the tax abatement is concentrated in the city's wealthiest neighborhoods, and the dilapidated condition of our public schools creates a public health crisis, that is the very definition of inequality," Gym said in a September announcement of her legislative priorities.

But the School District of Philadelphia said the report only shows one side of the equation.

"There is no question that the School District of Philadelphia bears one of the largest burdens in the country of the upfront costs of these incentives for business. However, this study only looks at one side of the ledger, so it is impossible to comment on the net impact of these incentives," School District spokesman Lee Whack said in a statement. "For example, do tax breaks result in increased activity with benefits that outweigh the value of those tax breaks? The study doesn't answer that question."

Economist Kevin Gillen, a member of the Building Industry Association of Philadelphia, called the report "a very narrow, one-sided analysis."

"I don't deny that there is genuine anger about the abatement, but I think it is misunderstood," Gillen said. He noted that a 2017 study commissioned by the BIA found that homeowners with expired abatements paid $48.1 million in tax revenue a year, an 11 percent increase to the city's tax base. They also found 376 percent real-estate growth in Philadelphia since the abatement was implemented in 2000.

$1.8B

The report found an estimated $1.8 billion in losses to tax breaks across 5,600 school districts nationwide.

"They assume that all of this development 100 percent would have happened anyway, and they also ignore the other revenue," Gillen said, citing benefits like developers hiring contractors and construction workers who pay wage tax; plus associated business taxes, sales tax, real-estate transfer taxes, and the projects' ultimately bringing in new residents who in turn will pay wage and other taxes.

Statewide, across 414 school districts in Pennsylvania, the estimated net loss to tax incentives is $98,089,085. Hypothetically, those funds could hire 2,028 new teachers in the commonwealth, Good Jobs First estimated.

The report found an estimated $1.8 billion in losses to tax breaks across 5,600 school districts nationwide (the 40 percent of 13,500 districts nationally who complied with new accounting rules by reporting the estimated value of tax incentives). The largest estimated loss for a single district was $96.7 million in the Hillsboro School District in Oregon, outside Portland, due to tax break arrangements granted to computer-processor giant Intel, which has offices in the town.

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FACEBOOK / PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

City to implement 6 percent tax on craft beers in 2019

Philadelphia will implement an existing tax on local breweries in the state who sell craft beer in their taprooms and during tastings.

As announced by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue in a recent bulletin, the tax has been in law since 1971, but will be enforced starting July 1, 2019.

"The obligation of manufacturers of beer to collect and remit sales tax has been in Pennsylvania's Tax Reform Code since its inception in 1971," said Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Communications Director Jeffrey Johnson. "The Tax Reform Code specifically states that a brewery shall collect and remit sales tax on sales of malt or brewed beverages to any person for any purpose except to distributors or importing distributors."

"The Tax Reform Code specifically states that a brewery shall collect and remit sales tax on sales of malt or brewed beverages to any person for any purpose except to distributors or importing distributors."

PA Dept. of Revenue Communications Director Jeffrey Johnson

For every dollar charged, a tax of 6 percent will be collected on all craft and malt beer sales.

Some local brewers aren't happy given it will affect their bottom line.

"Whether it's cost of yeast, cost of malt, or cost of labor or food in your breweries. It's all about controlling costs. So for a brewery to absorb that additional tax, it's going to be impossible," Randy McKinley of Sly Fox Brewing in Pottstown told Fox 29.

Initially, the tax on craft beer was to be enforced by Jan. 1, 2019, but it appears the state needs more time to determine just how it will monitor and collect the reenacted tax increases.

SARAH LUOMA

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Pat King
Grumble Editor

READER WRITE-INS:

SITTING ON THE SUBWAY STEPS

My complaint is about the idiots who sit on the subway stairs oblivious to the people going up and down the steps. Not only do they block traffic, they also pose a tripping hazard for people having to go around them.

With hundreds of thousands of people using them daily, there probably are very few places in the universe as filthy and germ-y as the subway steps. Why anyone would want to touch them is incomprehensible to me.

— **Larry,** *Metro New York reader*

RE: STANDING UP AT SEATED CONCERTS!

LOL! You must be joking! Would you like a pillow and a blanket to go with your seat? I will pay for my seat, stand, dance and jump around as much as I want and will sit when I feel like it. If that's how you feel, then stay at home and watch a video with the volume turned way up.

— **Monica,** *Metro US reader*

VENT TO US! GRUMBLE@METRO.US

#metrohumble

PUTTING THINGS INTO PERSPECTIVE

GETTY IMAGES

Sometimes it's hard to see things through the eyes of someone in the public spotlight. With social media outlets like Twitter and Facebook, we can nitpick every part of their lives, no matter how insensitively, from our own homes and never come face to face with the people we are hurting. As SNL star Pete Davidson wrote on Instagram yesterday, even celebrities go through tough times. Between his battle with mental illness and his extremely public breakup with pop star Ariana Grande, Davidson has had his fair share recently. Remember, there are consequences to the negative energy you put out into the world. It's good to keep a level perspective.

Please remember to send your Humbles to **humble@metro.us**. These submissions can be acts of gratitude, positivity or kindness that you have seen throughout the day.

metro.us/horoscopes

♈ **Aries** You need an outlet, but it shouldn't be something that could get you into trouble. As long as you are moderate and associate with reliable people.

♉ **Taurus** Make a physical change that will attract attention. A sophisticated yet bold statement will give you that look of success.

♊ **Gemini** You'll have trouble seeing clearly if you let someone sway your opinion. Joint ventures should be avoided.

♋ **Cancer** Take care of business and move on to projects you find more enjoyable. Preparations for functions you plan to attend or for a date night look promising.

♌ **Leo** Take better care of your health. You may be in the mood to cut loose with friends and overdo it, but it won't be worth it.

♍ **Virgo** Don't let your emotions interfere with what's right. Don't take a chance that could cost you emotionally or financially.

♎ **Libra** Study all the pros and cons before you sign up for something that close friends and family may not like. Get the go-ahead as well as the pertinent details first.

♏ **Scorpio** Plan a get-together with someone you haven't seen in a long time. Interacting with someone from your past will remind you of goals you have yet to accomplish.

♐ **Sagittarius** Don't leave anything to chance. Clear up unfinished business so you don't have it hanging over your head.

♑ **Capricorn** Do what comes naturally and head in whatever direction will bring you the highest returns. Refuse to let anyone use guilt tactics to take advantage of you.

♒ **Aquarius** Don't make a change because someone has fed you false information or is pressuring you. Know what you are up against.

♓ **Pisces** You can accomplish plenty if you do things for yourself. Don't let anyone lead you astray or take advantage of you. EUGENIA LAST

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Alex Borstein likens 'The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel' to 'The Odd Couple'

The "Family Guy" alum also enjoys having a spa day every once in a while.

ANDREW HUSBAND
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Alex Borstein thinks the Amazon series is a bit like "The Odd Couple." AMAZON STUDIOS

Toward the beginning of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" season two, Susie Myerson (Alex Borstein) gets the opportunity to housesit for Midge's (Rachel Brosnahan) parents while she and her father, Abraham "Abe" Weissman (Tony Shalhoub), trek across the Atlantic to find his wife, Rose (Marin Hinkle). What results is a "Home Alone"-esque montage that looks as fun as it probably was to shoot for the "Family Guy" and "MADtv" alum.

"I enjoy any moment that doesn't have tons and tons of dialogue," Borstein tells Metro. "So yeah, getting to lay in the bathtub was a nice break."

Co-created by "Gilmore Girls" showrunners Amy Sherman-Palladino and Dan Palladino, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" is one of the most verbose, witty and fast-paced shows on television today. Every single one of its performers has been tasked at least once with delivering a weighty monologue, or participating in a lengthy dialogue, throughout its first season, and judging by the first five episodes of season two, this hasn't changed one bit.

As much as Borstein's comment may sound like a complaint, it's quite the opposite. The Emmy Award-winning actress has known Sherman-Palladino for years, and since taking the role of Susie, she has come to love the challenge of working on such a complex production.

"It's like boot camp. We work for five to six months and then we get a break from it, so I can't complain," says Borstein. "And there are definitely surprises. Sometimes you go, 'What the hell is Amy thinking.' But there are also some great surprises, too. Like, this season has some musical elements in it that, when I first heard them, I was like, 'What are you talking about?' So there's definitely a lot of that with this show, and it's great."

She also loves getting to spend so much time with Brosnahan, whose Midge is Susie's constant companion. Borstein gets most of her screen time with her fellow Emmy winner, and she adores it.

"I like that Midge and Susie get to explore their relationship on a deeper level this season," she says. "In a way, they're a little bit like a couple in a new relationship, that's finding out all about their annoying habits while being in very close quarters for lengthy periods of time. That's really fun to do. It's a kind of 'Odd Couple' thing that we have going on. That's really fun for me."

Whether Susie will finally get to meet Abe, Rose or anyone else in Midge's family remains to be seen. In fact, Borstein spends so much of her time on set with Brosnahan and some minor characters that she only met some of the show's other featured players recently.

"Halfway through the day, I'm like, 'By the way, my name is Alex,'" she laughs. "There's still a lot of people I haven't worked with yet, so that's kind of fun. It's going to be a fun to finally meet everyone as the show goes on."

"The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" season two is now on Amazon Prime.

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Merry Drink-mas

Tinsel, Philly's own Christmas pop-up bar, opens Dec. 6.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Deck the halls and get ready to drink. It's time to celebrate Christmas, Philly-style. Teddy Sourias and Craft Concepts Group are reopening Tinsel, the popular Christmas pop-up bar in Center City. Tinsel was sold out every night last December, and this year promises to be more festive, holly and jolly than ever.

Tinsel is Philadelphia's only home-grown Christmas bar, and it certainly is one-of-a-kind. The festive holiday dreamland is decked out with lights, trees, colors and plenty of Christmas trinkets. The whole atmosphere makes you feel as though you've jumped down a chimney, Santa-style, and ended up at his favorite North Pole hangout.

Everything is themed perfectly for the jolly holiday, including the beverages. Tinsel will offer a full selection of liquor and spirits, Christmas cocktails and all-specialty Christmas beer drafts. Some delicious cocktails include the Gingerbread Man (northbound rye and housemade gingersnap syrup), Through the Candy Cane Forest (pinnacle vodka, Dekuyper peppermint schnapps and white chocolate liqueur), Let it Snow (Jim Beam double oak and maple syrup) and Thin Mint (Fernet Blanco, Borghetti, espresso liqueur and Slushi.)

The coolest drink by far is Tinsel's Snow Globe, made with Grey Goose La Vanille and White Cranberry. The delicious beverage comes in a snow globe (that you can take home with you) and is topped with edible snow. There is also a cocktail made in an ornament and a glass stocking that you can take back with you. Be sure to also try the Canned "Good" beverage — the drink comes in a custom Tinsel soup can (another fun souvenir) and part of the proceeds benefit Manna.

As an added appreciation for all of our favorite Kris Kringles, Tinsel is offering professional "mall" Santas their first drink for free during happy hour (if they show credentials and show up

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The Christmas decor is one-of-a-kind. ALL PHOTOS SOCIETY HILL FILMS

in costume). Hey, even Santa gets thirsty.

To keep the vibe festive, DJ Robert Drake (Mr. Christmas) will be spinning some of his holiday tunes with other Christmas favorites on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 from 5-7 p.m. Other nights will feature plenty of holly, jolly tunes as well.

Brand-new this year at Tinsel are the Letters to Santa, custom Tinsel-inspired postcards offer guests the opportunity to write notes to Santa, send letters home or just simply spread holiday cheer. The first 500 people will enjoy a postcard with valid postage — all you have to do is drop your postcard in the "Letters to Santa" mailbox in the main bar area, and Tinsel will get them to the post office.

The decor around the bar is enough to put you in a Christmas craze. There is a brand-new custom bar top that is 33 feet long; custom artwork featuring different holiday characters; a giant, nine-foot-tall gingerbread house; a full-length, brick-carved winter scene with Santa and his reindeer; gift box inverted chandeliers; a grand staircase leading to the North Pole; and much more. Visitors can also check out Santa's Throne Room, the perfect spot for holiday photo ops.

Fun holiday events at the Tinsel Christmas pop-up bar include a brand-new Jingle Bars Holiday Bar Crawl (Dec. 22); a new white elephant party, where guests bring an unwanted gift from Christmas and swap it for something new; New Year's Eve and Day celebrations; and much more.

Tinsel is located at 116 S. 12th St. Hours of operation differ on the day, beginning Dec. 6. Visit Tinsel on Facebook or Instagram @TinselPhilly for more information.

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FOR EAGLES, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO

THE SPORTS PROFESSOR

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Carson Wentz and the Eagles can take a big step toward winning the division with a victory over Dallas in Week 14. GETTY IMAGES

And so, appropriately, it all comes down to beating the Dallas Cowboys.

These frustrating 2018 Eagles stalled from the start with a Super Bowl hangover and Carson Wentz in rehab, reeled through late-game collapses and costly injuries. Even their victories have sometimes felt like ordeals.

And yet with back-to-back home wins over the Giants and Skins – the Little Sisters of the East – the Eagles battled their way back to 6-6 and earned a puncher's chance of defending their title. All they have to do now is travel to North Texas this Sunday and kick the loathsome Cowboys.

The geeky math, if you trust the numbers, projects that an Eagles win next Sunday gives them a 48 percent chance of taking the division and 57 percent chance of making the playoffs, according to FiveThirtyEight.com.

Lose to Dallas and those odds fall to a one percent chance of winning the East, and an eight percent chance of sniffing the post-season.

In other words, the fans could really start focusing on their holiday shopping lists.

Hey, the whole thing looks daunting – I'll concede that – especially if you look at both teams' results against the Saints in recent weeks. The Cowboys defense is formidable. Zeke Elliott gashed the Birds' defense for 151 rushing

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BEATING COWBOYS

yards just a month ago.

Given that, I'm surprised the betting line opened Tuesday morning showing Dallas as just a four-point favorite at home.

Or maybe I'm not. I've witnessed enough matchups between these enemies to know that whatever seems logical on paper is often shredded once the game begins. I recall the opener in Andy Reid's second season, when the Cowboys opened as a 6.5-point favorite, only to see the good guys stomp on their star by a 41-13 score. That game marked the onset of a great era of Eagles football.

Likewise, I was there four years ago when a 9-4 Chip Kelly squad trotted onto the Linc as a home favorite and unraveled against Tony Romo and Dez Bryant, losing 38-27 and blowing a chance at the playoffs.

That star-crossed history is what makes this one so good. Let's be honest, no franchise in any sport draws our venom like the Cowboys. Fools may have dubbed them America's Team. But in our town, where America really started, they are Hell's Team. They will always be known to us as the Damn Cowboys, the Stinkin' Cowboys, the Bleeping Cowboys.

One of their alum, Jason Witten, did a fine job of stoking Eagles fans' hatred Monday night. Now an inept color announcer for ESPN, Witten managed to bring up "Snowballs at Santa" twice in the game's first 10 minutes. No matter, that the episode occurred 50 years ago and that the buffoonish Witten got the essential facts wrong – it all just adds to the mix.

Of course, Eagle players will avoid creating bulletin board material this week. Wentz – who played a solid game Monday other than a foolish end-zone interception – said afterward, "Dallas has a great defense; they make things tough for you. So the way we are finally starting to mesh on offense, it's going to be big for us going down there."

The Eagles are, indeed, meshing on offense. Golden Tate had seven catches on seven targets Monday night. Josh Adams has quickly become a weapon. Darren Sproles and Corey Clement seem to have overcome injuries.

And of course, Zach Ertz is having a season for the ages. With four games to go, he has 93 receptions – putting him 18 from breaking Witten's NFL mark for tight ends. My God, it will be a delight to see Ertz erase that bumbling gas bag from the record books.

So the Eagles go into Dallas as underdogs, with the rest of the football world likely picking against them. When was the last time we saw that scenario?

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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee on Public Health and Human Services** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, December 11, 2018,** at **5:30 PM,** in **McPherson Library, 601 E. Indiana Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134**, to hear testimony on the following item:

180037 Resolution authorizing the Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings to assess the City of Philadelphia's efforts, as coordinated by the Managing Director's office and our Human services departments, to prevent and treat abuse, addiction, and disease related to the use of opioids.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee on Public Health and Human Services, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed item.

Copies of the foregoing item are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

Michael Decker
Chief Clerk

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, November term, 2018, No. 181100018. Notice is hereby given that on November 7, 2018, the petition of: Melissa Marie McGinty, praying for a decree to change her name to: Tuwhera Y LaLiberte. The Court has fixed court date December 10, 2018, at 8:30AM, in Room No. 691 for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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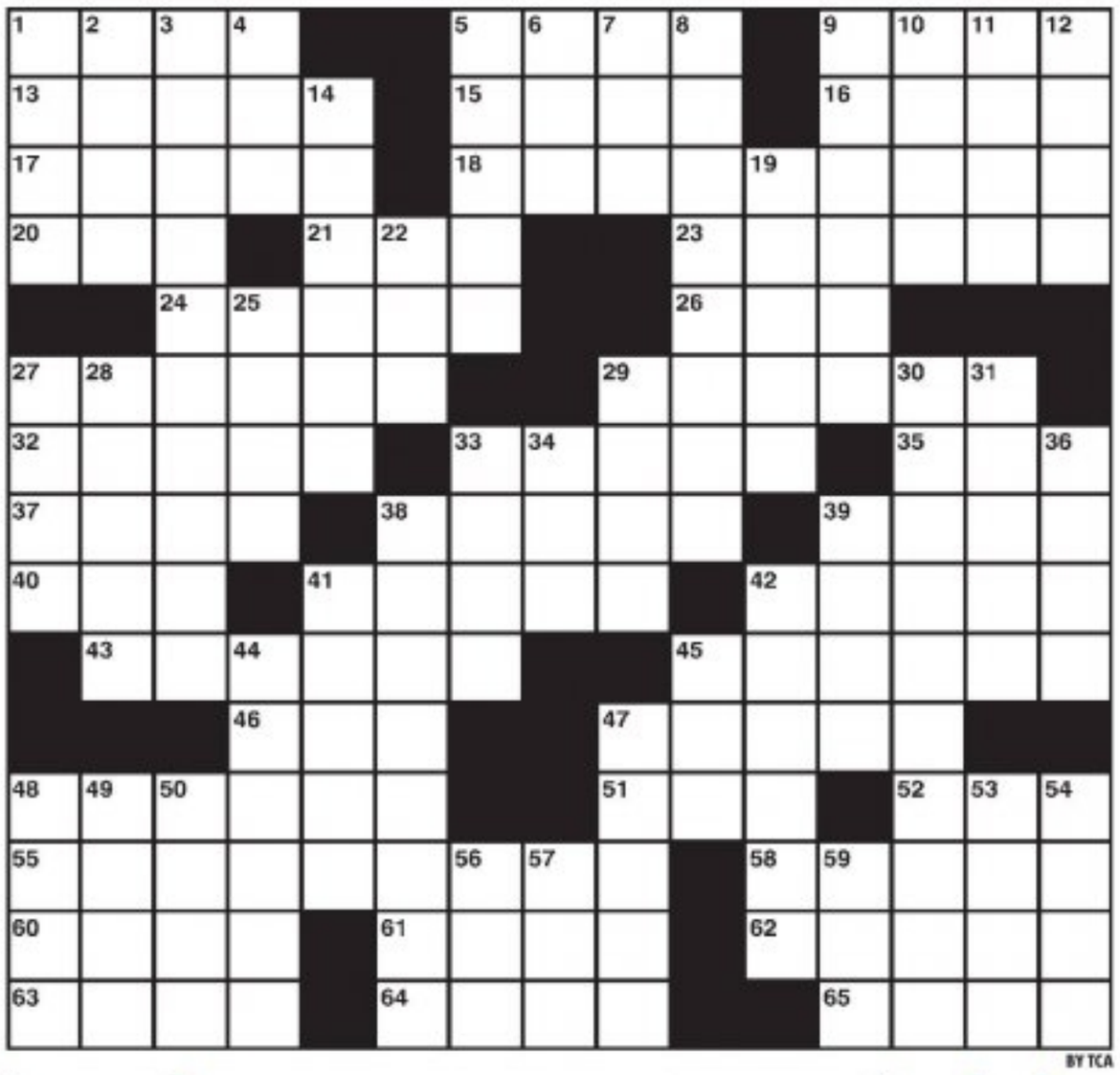

BY TCA

ACROSS

1 European range
5 Cookware
9 Clerical error
13 Concerns
15 Elevator
16 Stack
17 "Trick or __!"
18 Make less severe
20 Houston or Elliott
21 Boxing great
23 Beatty or Buffett
24 Carrying a gun
26 Jolson & Roker
27 Leftover bits
29 Cruel; barbarous
32 Word following potato or chocolate
33 Babble
35 Bee's follower
37 Martial __; judo, karate, etc.
38 Harness straps
39 Hee-haw
40 Ms. Farrow
41 Daytime serials
42 Piece of garlic
43 Inclines
45 Felt about blindly
46 Cry from the flock
47 Material to be kneaded
48 Sudden
51 FedEx rival
52 Cereal grain
55 Two-cup item
58 Piece of furniture
60 "Penny __"; Beatles song
61 Tack
62 __ down; loses weight
63 Breakfast order
64 Periodontist's focus
65 Final

DOWN

1 Play divisions
2 Dr. Zhivago's love
3 Occurring before the wedding
4 Yellow, Red, Black or Dead
5 Kilt pattern
6 Feel sick
7 Org. for Bills and Browns
8 James and Rod
9 Diabetes symptom
10 Period of time
11 Cracker spread
12 Remove the lid from
14 50¢ purchases
19 Hold in high regard
22 French article
25 Knocks
27 Ponzi scheme
28 Christie or Rock
29 Prohibits
30 Fear of heights
31 Sailor's time off
33 Green vegetables
34 Napper __ Van Winkle
36 Watched
38 Turning
39 Personal web page
41 Clothing fasteners
42 Pie bottoms
44 Mistreats
45 Reagan's party, for short
47 Sword fights
48 Qualified
49 Toot one's own horn
50 Pealed
53 Poor box donation
54 Trial run
56 Toulouse water
57 Curved edge
59 Laundry soap

metro.us/wordsearch

D	X	C	O	S	A	F	K	E	C
E	E	I	I	N	I	A	T	A	Z
T	T	N	H	I	N	N	R	O	Y
I	A	D	C	P	R	T	F	E	E
H	M	E	C	P	O	A	N	I	K
W	I	R	O	O	F	S	M	N	C
W	N	E	N	P	I	I	O	N	I
O	A	L	I	D	L	A	U	I	M
N	R	L	P	W	A	W	S	M	N
S	T	A	T	O	C	P	E	G	Y

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	6		5	4	8			
								9
		2	9		3	7		
			2			1	8	
	1		3		6		9	
	2	4			1			
		9	1		2	4		
6								
			4	7	5		1	

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G	E	L		B	U	M	P	S		H	A	R	M	S
		G	L	E	N	S			J	A	Y			
C	R	E	A	S	E			H	O	I	S	T	S	
O	A	S	I	S		C	R	I	E	S		R	A	P
S	T	I	R		P	O	P	E	S		W	A	V	E
T	I	C		R	O	O	M	S		W	A	I	V	E
	O	S	C	A	R	S			M	A	R	T	Y	R
			A	C	E			M	O	T	T	O		
S	C	A	R	E		S	T	O	A	T		R	I	M
L	A	C	E	R	A	T	I	O	N		N	O	N	E
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